

RAY LEWIS
EDITOR AND
PUBLISHER
FILM BLDG.
277 Victoria St.
TORONTO

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE

Digest

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR OF

PUBLICATION 1915-48

Vol. 40, No. 5

TORONTO, CANADA

May 29th, 1948

Johnny Is Waiting!

IN the O. J. Silverthorne Annual Report, as published by The Canadian Moving Picture Digest, in our May 22nd issue, the Chairman of the Ontario Censorship Board stated that the year ending March 31st "was an eventful one for the Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection Branch". Thirty new theatres were built and extensive alterations were completed on twenty-five licensed theatres, while twenty additional theatres are now undergoing alterations.

In some of our small cities and towns, which formerly had one, or two, theatres, the year has revealed that two, and three, additional theatres have been built, not due to the fact that the population has increased noticeably, save in some instances where a new industry, or factory has opened, offering employment for a few hundred men, or women. In the towns or cities mentioned, the exhibitors operating have done good business, in one, or two, theatres, but with the additional theatres, it looks as if someone must lose money, and the past year has revealed that some of the new theatres are definitely in the "red"; some have already changed ownership, several have added to their picture presentations Stage Shows, Amateur Nights, Premiums.

Looking at this overall picture and remembering what happened in the United States, about 1929-30, to a few of the most powerful of the majors, who over-expanded theatre operation, and who were forced into bankruptcy and re-capitalization, we are wondering what will be the result of the theatre-expansion in process in Canada. Without trying to be facetious, we are prompted to remark, "Keep on building, gentlemen, Johnny is waiting". The Johnny we refer to is Premium Johnny, who now is offering the well-advertised Marigold set of 22 karat gold dinnerware to exhibitors who find their competition tough-riding.

Let us take a look at some of the zones in Toronto, which now boasts of one million in population, including Greater Toronto. We have had a population close to one million for the past decade, at least.

On Yonge Street, Toronto's so-called Main Street, from Bloor down, we have the York Theatre; the Uptown; in building, we will have the new University Theatre; we have the Embassy; the new Odeon Carlton, in building, and which, according to reports, indicates, "we ain't seen anything yet until we Torontonians see this new Odeon Theatre building"; the Rio; the Biltmore, the latter recently opened; a new downtown house, another reported wonder-theatre building which Famous Players is constructing; the Imperial; Loew's; Arcadian; Victoria; Tivoli, and one on Dundas Square, near the Film Building, which is being built by Nat Taylor and Famous Players. Keep on building, gentlemen, Johnny is waiting!

In the North Zone, the theatre map has taken such a decided change, with so many new theatres, in addition to those already in operation, that some of these theatres are already wondering where their business has gone. There is the Eglinton; the Avenue, almost across the street; the new Nortown; the Colony; the new Glendale; Village; Capitol; Hollywood, with a new Annex which seats an additional seven hundred; the Bedford; the new Odeon Fairlawn; International Cinema; Kent; Circle. Keep on building, gentlemen, Johnny is waiting!

In the Danforth Zone, here is really something, with fourteen theatres operating, and which include the Century; Granada; Ace; Palace; the new Odeon Pape; Cameo; the new B & F Donlands; Allenby; Oxford; Prince of Wales; Ideal; Grover; Avalon and Community. Keep on building, gentlemen, Johnny is waiting!

—EDITOR.

PUBLISHED BY

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED

277 VICTORIA STREET

TORONTO

Theatre Chain Head Leads Celebration

Mitchael Bernstein acted as chairman of the meeting of rejoicing, over the formation of a Jewish State, held in Saint John. Joe Lieberman also spoke as did Mrs. Lieberman, who is Provincial Vice-President for the Hadassah Society. The meeting was held at the Shaarei Zedek Synagogue and was followed by a social gathering. Services of Thanksgiving were held. Messrs. Bernstein and Lieberman are partners in B & L Theatres, a Maritime Province chain of theatres.

MOVIE EQUIPMENT STOLEN

Vancouver police are searching for a man apparently obsessed with the idea of becoming a movie magnate. The lad rented a movie projector from Studios Ltd. "just for the day". The following day, a man answering the same description, rented five documentary films from the Vancouver Film Library. He hasn't been seen by either organization since. Could be that he is starting his own circuit of theatres.

Plots Of Pictures Influence Patrons

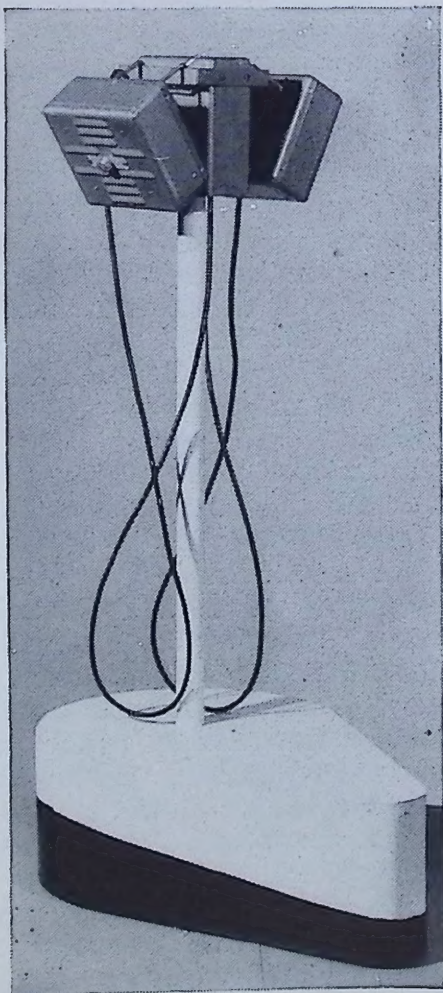
Vancouverites say they are influenced more by what the films are about than they are by the names of the stars appearing in them when choosing movies to see, a Vancouver Poll of the town's adult population shows. Thirty-nine per cent said the stars appearing in films were major reason for choosing them as against 59 per cent who chose the film's story as a basis for selecting a movie to see.

"DRIVE-IN SPEAKERS"

THE 'IN-A-CAR' SPEAKER THAT DRIVE-IN THEATRES

HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR!

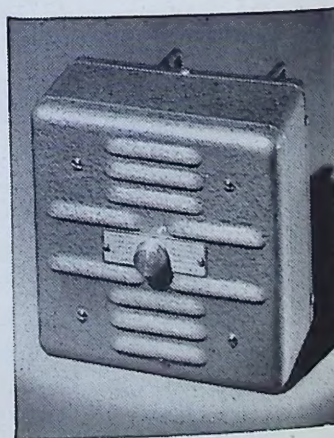
Now Available



Model 148-A, Steel Case, finished in attractive Blue Hammerlund.

6" Speaker using aluminum voice coil form — this is the most ideal type for Drive-In use since there is no expansion due to moisture absorption. These Speakers have undergone Navy type tests, such as shock vibration, temperature, salt spray, and frequency response requirements.

Sound emission is through louvres and a splash screen is provided inside the case for additional Speaker protection. The volume control is by constant impedance L-Pad, instead of by potentiometer. This assures quality reproduction at any position of the control.



TORONTO
104 Bond Street

MONTREAL
288 St. Catherine St. W.

GENERAL THEATRE SUPPLY

COMPANY LIMITED

VANCOUVER
963 Granville Street

WINNIPEG
185 Portage Ave. E.

RAY PRESENTS



THERE are so many Holy Land scenes in our news, that I cannot overlook the Holy Land in our Digest of news. We have, already, had a J. Arthur Rank presentation of the Holy Land, in the series "This Modern Age", and a "March of Time", Palestine presentation. We have, at least, two feature Palestinian pictures, and if "Buzz" Beurling, Canada's Ace Flyer, had not finished his extraordinary flying career, when his plane crashed in Rome, enroute to the Holy Land, resulting in his death, we would have had some startling pictures of the present Holy Land War, for Beurling was equipped with a camera to take such pictures, and he was brave enough to tell the Truth.

The Holy Land is front page news, and at present, the United Nations special legacy and consideration. We, in Motion Pictures, are very definitely involved in anything which is of so national, or international complexity. The past has revealed, that in any World War, we are in that War, actively, in uniform and as civilians. Motion Pictures, the Press and Radio have become important factors in war and in peace, and all World News is of importance to all members of our Industry.

A FEW years ago, the Deer Park Church, on St. Clair Avenue, whose rector is Dr. Stanley Russell, held Sunday Services, morning and evening, at the Hollywood Theatre, the roof of the Church having caved in. Jule Allen, of the Premier Operating Company, offered the Hollywood for these Church Services, free of charge, to Dr. Stanley Russell, and for approximately twenty weeks such services were held in the Hollywood Theatre.

I am, therefore, interested in any viewpoint expressed by Dr. Stanley Russell, not because of the Hollywood service story, but due to the fact that Dr. Stanley Russell is not only an inspiration to his parishioners, but an inspiration to people of many faiths. In addition, he is a man of knowledge, of generous impulses, of great understanding and of a Divine Faith.

In his column, in the Toronto Daily Star, Saturday, May 22nd, under a heading, "A Clergyman Looks At The World", his caption for his story is, "Palestine Seen Crucial Test Of U.N. And Creators". I am republishing this statement by the Rev. G. Stanley Russell, because it is so far-seeing, so full of common sense, so just, and should be read by everyone, who has a decent human fibre in his make-up; and because it might give those, who are better at jeering than cheering, a true picture of a world-important event.

THE decision of the United States of America to recognize the new state of Israel has already become the subject of controversy. Even within its own borders there are those who suggest that it is either a very great blunder or is not unconnected with forthcoming elections. What ought to be remembered, first and foremost, is that Israel is the creation of the United Nations, which either is or is not the world-authority in such matters, and that not only the United States but Canada took a very prominent and effective part in the decision that created it. As a matter of fact, the issue now raised is vital.

The question before the world is not only whether the United Nations is to be accorded obedience, but whether those who are responsible for its edict are prepared to stand by its authority. The great meeting held in Toronto, the demands even of sections of our press not always

favorable to liberable ideas, and the absolute necessity of showing once and for all that world-government and international order are not mere dreams or shams, require that this matter receive immediate attention in a way much more practical than the addressing of questions to the contending parties in Palestine. Rejoicing on the part of the Jews may be premature, and their confidence in the future may find itself on a long, hard, blood-stained road, but the matter is no longer merely a question of them and the Arabs. It has become a crucial test of the United Nations and of the individual countries responsible for the creation of Israel.

Nobody will imagine that all Jews want to return to Palestine, any more than all Scotsmen who annually pipe in and address the haggis propose to resume permanent residence in Drumtochty. Apart from the results to the world and themselves, there is the question of the congestion in Drumtochty. Scotsmen pride themselves that they have solved the problem of a dual allegiance in a fashion others might note and imitate. The Jew has not accepted his dispersion in the same fashion as the Scot, and one reason may well be that he has had no country of his own on which to expend what the happily exiled Scot bestows on the ancient kingdom overseas. Now that he can look to some spot of ground as the rightful and ancestral territory of his people, he may find it easier to enter into the full citizenship of other countries.

That the Jew has a claim to a portion, if not the whole, of Palestine, it is surely difficult to deny. The Arab world is a very formidable federation, and it is that fact which prevents the firm handling of the situation, and which has prevented it all along. There is ample room for the Arabs in the world; they already have kingdoms of their own; there is a vast tract named after them, in addition to which, they have always seemed somewhat detached from their soil, and have manifested little sentiment about it.

The Jews have no spot of earth to call their own, and they have a right to one. If we are to turn to Scripture, its authority is definitely on the side of the contention that Palestine is their Promised Land, and that there is a covenant involved. It was from that country that they sent forth their priceless contributions to human life and literature, and it is the homeland of Isaiah, Judas, Maccabaeus, and, above all, of Jesus. The Jews did not leave it of their own free will, but were dragged thence or driven thence by ruthless military powers.

THE Crusades may afford many grounds for criticism, but at least they embodied the passionate conviction that the Holy Land, and especially Jerusalem, held something about which the Christian conscience ought to be aroused, and the Christian cannot separate himself from the Jew, in whose religion his Master lived and died, whose Scriptures are his own, and whose synagogue was the womb of the Church.

Shakespeare's Shylock has always been misunderstood, and has rarely been rightly rendered by any actor save Henry Irving. He dominates the play in lonely grandeur as the exhibition of what Christians have made a Jew — as human as themselves — become. Those who portray him as merely a covetous, villainous, or vengeful person have never realized the obvious fact that he is Shakespeare's accusation of Gentiles. It is pathetic that the mighty work against anti-Semitism should have been tortured into an argument in favor of it. Personal re-

(Continued on Page 6)

Toronto and District

By BILL PRESS

PRESIDENT J. J. FITZGIBBONS of Famous Players Canadian Corporation, was pointed in his criticism of the enactment of the Ontario legislation for the 20 per cent amusement tax which followed immediately the abolished federal war excise levy of similar percentage. He likened the provincial move to that of the pick-pocket who is determined to get his hand into the little man's pocket and get all the money he can.

In connection with his sharp pronouncement, Mr. Fitzgibbons revealed that theatre attendance had declined in recent weeks, more so than the usual decrease for the spring months. The Ontario tax was simply a case of robbing the man who could least afford it and he urged the public to organize to place their objections before the members of the legislature, otherwise "we'll never get anywhere".

Mr. Fitzgibbons was critical because the scope of the provincial tax had not been extended to include the night clubs. A person could get drunk without being taxed but the poor man could not go to the movie without being soaked.

In support of the financial drive of the local Canadian Legion branch for the erection of a memorial arena at St. Thomas, the Capitol Theatre there had a vaudeville show for a one-night performance for which the admission price was \$1. St. Thomas merchants donated many prizes for the stunts.

The Canadian Broadcasting Corp. decided to defer applications for television licenses until "after October 1st", thus holding off the introduction of televised entertainment for Canadians that much later. At a recent meeting the CBC received two applications from Toronto and one from Hamilton but it was pointed out that only three television channels would be available for Toronto and one for Hamilton — and the government corporation would have priority for its own stations.

The television position for theatres is not yet clear but it begins to look that the cinemas will have to take visual programs from the CBC in most cases, apart from the televising of moving picture films.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hudspith of Orchard Park Blvd. were the winners of the "Blind Date" contest staged by Shea's Theatre in connection with the engagement of "The Voice of the Turtle" and a flashy tie-up with the Yolles Furniture company. They received a suite of furniture and an all-expense outing to Niagara Falls for a "second honeymoon".

The financial statement presented to Canadian Parliament when Finance Minister D. C. Abbott brought down his 1948-49 budget gave an estimate of \$15,369,000 as the revenue during the past fiscal year from the federal war excise tax on theatre grosses. This represented an aggregate gross for all theatres at around \$75,000,000 for the period, the tax being one-fifth of the box office take.

In the previous fiscal year, the federal amusement revenue was \$14,552,000 while that for the 1945-46 fiscal year totalled \$13,387,000. This indicated a gradual increase in theatre receipts for the successive post-war years.

With the financial year closing March 31st, the abolishment of the federal tax on theatre grosses on May 19th means that the table of revenues one year hence will show amusement returns for only some seven weeks of the current fiscal period.

The new Ontario tax is figured on the face value of individual tickets and not on weekly grosses as in the case of the recent federal levy. Therefore many theatres had to make a quick revision of admission scales so that the impost would equal one-fifth of the ticket price. In Toronto the first-run theatres raised the adult price for matinees from 48c to 50c to balance the tax charge. In some centres there was a small reduction in the juvenile admission in order to work out a one-fifth charge for the Ontario tax.

The death occurred, at his home in London, Ont., of Richard H. Cronyn, 54, member of a prominent Western Ontario family and well-known financier. A brother is Hume Cronyn, a star of the screen and stage for many years. Death occurred suddenly from a heart attack.

Two baby girls were born to members of the Toronto film industry over the week end. Harvey Harnick, Columbia general sales manager, is the father of Marley Lois, who weighed in at 6 lbs., 13½ ozs. Harry Wiseman, Odeon booker, is also the father of a baby girl, born to his wife on Sunday.

The Sault Daily Star co-operated with the Algoma Theatre in the Northern Ontario city for the publication of a complete combination page for the engagement of "Unconquered". Local retail establishments took display space to emphasize the theme of being unconquered through the daily use of labor-saving equipment and services for the household.

The Canadian Moving Picture Digest

Entered as Second Class Matter

RAY LEWIS - - - Editor and Publisher

BERT H. WILKES - - - Associate Editor

Published by

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY, LIMITED

277 Victoria Street - Toronto

Telephone: WAverley 4928

Cable: Raydigest

Established 1915. Publication weekly.

Subscription: \$5.00 yearly

— Correspondents —

A. L. FAIRWEATHER.....Saint John, N.B.
J. J. CONKLIN.....Winnipeg, Man.
BRUCE PEACOCK.....Regina, Sask.
JACK DROY.....Vancouver, B.C.
WILL McLAUGHLIN.....Ottawa, Ont.
BILL PRESS.....Toronto, Ont.
ROY LESTER.....Montreal, Que.

May 24th turned out to be a very hectic day in the life of Lou LeFebvre, manager of the B & F Eastwood Theatre. To begin with, his scheduled feature did not arrive in time for the holiday performance and he was forced to get a substitute bill. On top of that, at 9.30 p.m., a baby was delivered to one of his patrons in the ladies lounge. Both mother and manager are reported doing well.

The death occurred at Ottawa after a brief illness of Mrs. Raoul Belanger, 71. One of her eight children is G. Belanger, a veteran employee of the Centre Theatre. The survivors also included 16 grandchildren.

The Odeon Theatre at Kingston invited the members of its Movie Club to bring their mother or a guardian to a Saturday morning performance as a free guest of the management. The Kingston Odeon also staged a contest for many prizes for adult patrons during the engagement of "Song Of My Heart" in co-operation with a local phonograph shop.

Vandals broke into the head office of 20th Century-Fox Films in Toronto and did considerable damage to desks, typewriters and other office equipment. Personal belongings of Arthur Silverstone, Canadian division manager, were also stolen.

Harold S. King, Cardinal Toronto branch manager, returned from a week's selling trip to Ottawa and the surrounding territory. He reports that the exhibitors were very responsive to the product offered by his company.

The exhibitors in Hull are having the laugh on their associates on the Ontario side of the Ottawa River because, unlike the Province of Ontario, the Quebec government did not take up the tax slack when the federal levy was abolished. Theatres in Hull immediately reduced their scales by 20 per cent.

Selznick—Korda Sign Contract For Joint English Production

David O. Selznick and Sir Alexander Korda announced the signing of a contract between their respective companies for a joint global motion picture venture. Under the terms of the agreement the two producers will collaborate in a series of films to be made in England employing the best talents in Hollywood and London.

Plans have already been agreed upon for the filming of four stories during the next twelve months, of which two will be in Technicolor. Production of the first will start next September and others thereafter at intervals of two to three months. The following stories have been tentatively agreed upon by Selznick and Korda: Joseph Conrad's "An Outcast of the Islands"; Charles Dickens' "A Tale of Two Cities"; Thomas Hardy's "Tess of the D'Urbervilles"; "The Third Man", a new unpublished novel by Graham Greene; and also under consideration are Daphne du Maurier's "The King's General"; Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days"; Thomas Mann's "The Magic Mountain", and Aldous Huxley's "Point Counterpoint".

The stars will be supplied for these pictures by Selznick, principally from those under contract to his companies although it is agreed that wherever it is possible to further add to the film's American box office appeal by including two or three star names, Selznick may make available other stars as well. Also, in addition, Korda will supply from his contract artists the top names of the British film and theatre. Selznick's stars, among others, include Gregory Peck, Joseph Cotten, Jennifer Jones, Dorothy McGuire, Valli, Shirley Temple, Louis Jourdan, Robert Mitchum, Robert Young and Guy Madison.

The films will be produced and directed by Britain's leading independent film-makers who are associated with Korda, including Carol Reed, Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger, Sydney Gilliat, Frank Launder, Anthony Kimmins, Anthony Asquith, Anatole de Grunwald, Zoltan Korda and others, at Korda's Shepperton and Isleworth studios in England.

Jennifer Jones will play the title role in a Technicolor production of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles", to be directed and produced by Carol Reed. Players of importance will shortly be chosen for the two male co-starring leads.

Carol Reed will also produce and direct the Graham Greene story, "The Third Man". Two American stars for this film will be announced shortly.

Gregory Peck will play Sydney Carton in "A Tale of Two Cities", which will also be produced in Technicolor.

The contract provides for various methods of consultation between Selznick and Korda on scripts, editing, and all other phases of production, looking toward giving these pictures the widest possible appeal for American audiences.

In this cooperative venture the Selznick and Korda companies share the ownership of the films to be produced in such a manner that Selznick will own the pictures outright for the Western Hemisphere, while Korda's company retains them for the Eastern Hemisphere. In North and South America, they will be distributed by Selznick Releasing Organization.

Commenting on the deal Selznick said: "The freezing of American film revenues in Britain has created a complex situation for the American companies. As I see it there are two methods of coping with this situation. The first is the invasion of the British Isles by Hollywood picture-makers, in effect producing Hollywood films in England with whatever talent Hollywood can spare. And we must bear in mind that Hollywood does not have nearly enough first-rate talent for its own purposes.

"The second method is the fostering of the great producing talents of England in a cooperative effort, helping to so shape their films as to give them great appeal for American audiences.

"I have chosen the latter course. With the stories and stars that we have in mind, I strongly believe that some of the greatest box office attractions of the future will be made in England under this plan, and without sacrificing any of the artistry which has distinguished the efforts of these outstanding British film-makers".

Alexander Korda said: "I am very pleased to be associated with Mr. Selznick, and I am quite sure that in the deal we have shaped and closed, we have found a pattern for true cooperation between American and British film-makers. Mr. Selznick's association with these pictures will be invaluable towards achieving for our films a real popularity in the American market. The help of Mr. Selznick's organization, and even more, his personal association with this venture, is especially welcome".

Milton A. Kramer, Chairman of the Board of Selznick Releasing Organization, was associated with Selznick in the negotiations.

BORN IN SHOW BUSINESS

A baby was delivered in the Eastwood Theatre, Toronto, on Monday night, which looks as if Tent 28 is now in the same class as its parent Variety tent. The necessity for a Variety adoption is not here, still a baby born in a theatre is certainly born into show business, and Variety can not pass up the opportunity to present a gift to the baby. In 25 years, the Pioneers should make her a member.

Ontario Theatre Tax Immediately In Effect

The imposition of the 20% Amusement Tax, which has rightfully earned its reputation as an Amusement Tax, dropped by the Federal Government, was immediately imposed by the Ontario Provincial Government. This, despite an announcement, from the Federal Government, of grants, for Health and Hospitalization, amounting to \$30,000,000 annually.

This is the first time that there has been a provincial tax imposed on Amusements to the extent of 20% from the first penny received for each paid admission, and this is peace time with no War Emergency and a Surplus Budget, presented by the Ontario Provincial Government, of \$25,000,000.

The Federal Government's Surplus is over half a billion dollars. An announcement by Arthur Hirsch, president of Consolidated Theatres, Montreal, states that theatres in Quebec will decrease admission prices to the extent of the 20% tax, which the Federal Government had dropped from its taxation program.

Other provinces will not levy the tax. The Digest has been advised that Nova Scotia will not impose the 20% tax; that theatres will give the public the benefit of the tax in decreased admission prices. Nova Scotia has always had a ten per cent admission tax, but no tax on children's admission tickets. Incidentally, Nova Scotia recently built a new Hospital, spending 2½ million dollars, which the Province paid, and not out of the Amusement Tax.

If Nova Scotia can afford to build and maintain a 400 bed hospital, what is the matter with Ontario, with greater population and resources than Nova Scotia?

NFB Makes Movie On Art Galleries

Emphasizing that the art gallery of today is not maintained for a select few but for everyone, the May release of the National Film Board's Canada Carries On series is entitled "Art For Everybody" it has been announced recently.

A report on Canadian art galleries, the film covers all the functions they have taken on to stimulate interest in their communities.

Every Saturday morning, the film points out, galleries in most Canadian cities sponsor children's art classes. children of all ages busily sketching, putting on plays or puppet shows.

Included also in the ten minute short are lively folk dances encouraged and sponsored by the art galleries. In addition are close-ups of famous paintings by famous painters, such as Dali, Picasso and A. Y. Jackson.

Maritime News

By A. L. FAIRWEATHER

GREAT satisfaction is expressed by the theatre managers in New Brunswick at the Dominion repeal of the Amusement tax and the announcement by Premier McNair that New Brunswick has no intention of imposing the tax provincially. The N.B. Legislature has finished its present sessions and is prorogued until next spring. Theatre managers in Saint John announced reductions in prices and are glad to pass on the benefit to their patrons. The Capitol's scale of prices is being reduced and a fifty cent admission will now be 42 cents, children's matinee tickets will be ten cents, thus saving kiddies the two cents formerly charged on the 12 cent admission. There is a Provincial tax which remains, but the Province of New Brunswick forgoes that on Saturdays making the dime admission possible. It is understood that the Nova Scotia Premier has intimated that the Province will not follow Ontario's example and will not impose the tax in N.S. Word has not, as yet, been received as to Provincial action in P.E.I.

Messrs. M. Bernstein and J. Lieberman, with their sons, Mortimer Bernstein and Stanley Lieberman, went to Hartland to attend the opening of the new B & L Theatre there. The opening feature was "The Fabulous Texan". There will be three changes each week with a full week's show at the Capitol.

J. M. Franklin, president of the Franklin and Herschorn Theatres and Mrs. Franklin have returned from their winter in Florida. Mr. Franklin says that exhibitors are watching very carefully for the results of the decision of the Supreme Court regarding the divorcement of theatres from production companies. The example is likely to be followed in Canada and might have far-reaching effects. Mr. Franklin met a number of exhibitors, although not so many as usual as the restrictions on travel to the United States made a great difference in the amount of holiday and winter visitors in Florida.

Mr. and Mrs. A. I. Garson celebrated, informally, the twenty-sixth anniversary of their wedding. Mr. Garson is Maritime representative for the Odeon interests.

M. Komar, Maritime manager for Warner Bros. who was called to Winnipeg by the illness of his mother, has returned to Saint John. He has word now that his mother is improving. While in Winnipeg he saw Louis Michelson, who was in Saint John for a number of years, but is now Selznick western division representative. Mr. Komar visited Warner Bros. office in Winnipeg and spent some time at the Head Office of the Company at Toronto.

"The Iron Curtain" had an excellent showing at the Capitol Theatre, Saint John. Audiences were deeply impressed by the theme and acting. Several persons returned for a second time, and one patron returned, bringing his twelve year old son with him to teach him the seriousness of the subject matter. "The Bishop's Wife" was held over for a full week at the Imperial Theatre, Moncton, N.B.

A. A. Fielding of S.F.A. Theatres now living in Bridgewater, N.B. spent a few days in Saint John and told your correspondent that his new theatre at Bridgewater will be open by June 3rd. It will be called the Avon and the opening feature will be Universal's "That's My Man". The building is of frame and concrete, finished in black aronite with chrome trim. The inside lobby and foyer has a mahogany and natural birch finish. The theatre is air-conditioned, with the newest self-raising seats. It will be opened for week-ends at the present time. The Company's other theatre, the Capitol, is open continuously with a three change per week policy. Mr. Fielding has purchased the home of Hon. Dr. Davis on the LaHavre River. Saint John is sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Fielding from the community as they were fine citizens while here.

Mr. P. J. O'Rourke, of the Strand Theatre, Minto, N.B., accompanied by Mrs. O'Rourke, paid a visit to Saint John, recently.

RAY PRESENTS

(Continued from Page 3)

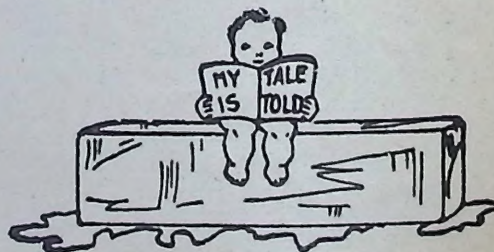
relationships underlie everything. You cannot do successful business with people whom you despise and hold at arm's length.

Our behaviour to the Jew has not been a way, but a blind alley, leading nowhere. If we were really Christians, we should apply the Golden Rule, and be astonished to find — as those have done who have made the experiment — what a success its practise has proved, even after centuries of the other attitude have warped the situation.

No man condones Jewish violence, any more than he excuses Gentile pogroms. We do, however, realize that there is still a prayer in the heart of the Jew that, if he forgets Jerusalem, his right hand may lose its cunning. Whatever the feeling of the Arab for Palestine, it is not that or anything like that. It is difficult to believe that this matter is being given honest, unprejudiced, and really earnest attention. Although the fiat of the United Nations ought to be final, as the verdict of the parliament of mankind, there should be, especially in Christian hearts, a very clear and profound conviction that justice must be done to all, the Jew ought to have his homeland, and that every consideration of history, sentiment, and religion conspires to make good his title.

I AM reminded, in watching the Palestine scene, of what happened in Ethiopia, of Haile Selassie's appeal to the League of Nations, of the question of Sanctions, and I remember, that in Mansion House, in England, when I was there, that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, made an appeal on behalf of Ethiopia, that funds were collected, while the League of Nations saw Ethiopia bombed, Haile Selassie dethroned, thousands killed, and kept on debating and fiddling, until the Fascists conquered and ruled.

Some time ago, I coined the phrase, "Oil For The Lamps Of Allah"; it would be a Divine Blessing if the oil-wells would dry up, just as the Red Sea dried up and permitted the Hebrew Slaves of the Pharaoh to pass over into the Promised Land of their Destiny. If Israel is in the Divine Plan of God, all the king's horses and all the king's men, including all the guns and steeds of Arabia, will not alter this Plan.



Rank Will Reconsider Production In Canada

Plans for the production of major films in Canada and in Australia had been postponed because of the imposition of the British tax on film earnings but would now be reviewed, J. Arthur Rank stated at the press conference following his return to England from America.

(As originally announced, a tax of 75 per cent applied on the earnings of all films imported into the United Kingdom. A compromise arrangement between Hollywood and the British Government, recently announced, has resulted in the resumption of American film shipments to Britain, halted when the tax went into effect. No announcement has been made regarding the status of films made elsewhere such as those from Empire countries including Canada and Australia).

"Great progress has been made", Mr. Rank told the London press, "in the showing of British films throughout Canada". He felt that, both in Canada and the United States, the public welcome for British motion pictures would grow as an increasing number of such films became available. His own studios were producing forty pictures per year. As far as subject matter was concerned, greater emphasis was now being placed on comedy but the general program was a varied one.

Asked regarding reported Hollywood plans to make "large numbers of pictures" in Britain, Mr. Rank thought twelve to fifteen a year would probably be the maximum in view of the difficulties encountered by Hollywood companies operating six thousand miles from their home base.

In reply to many questions about the position of British films in the United States, Mr. Rank said he had assurances of more playing time in American theatres and added that the incentive to show British pictures would increase when the new U.S.-British tax compromise began to operate.

He confirmed the fact that progress had been made in large-screen theatre television by the Rank research organization in Britain but would not yet give a firm date for its introduction.

SRO HOLDS SALES MEET

Lou Michelson, western division manager; Larry Druxerian, eastern manager; Joe Meyers, special Ontario representative and Mervyn Goldstone, Toronto branch manager, were in conference with Charles Weiner and Joe Marks, new Canadian division chief, formulating policy on Selznick's product, soon to be released. Special attention was given to "Duel In The Sun", which is being released at regular prices, and to "Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House", which will open in Canada early in July.

Heavy Promotion For "Robin Hood"

It is not often that we see a good campaign carried out for a re-issue, but after seeing the details of Tony Ranicar's campaign, in co-operation with Al Perly, for the Toronto showing of Warner Bros.' "The Adventures Of Robin Hood", at the new Biltmore Theatre, we feel that it warrants some mention.

Messrs. Harold A. Wilson's Sports Goods Store was contacted and after some discussion agreed to present a complete Archery outfit to the winner of an essay contest, based on the film title. Mr. R. John Mitchele, past-president of the Hunting and Field Archers of Ontario, and well-known big game hunter, who has an archery equipment business at 69 Grenville Street, agreed to give his services to instruct the winner in the proper handling of the bow and arrow. Messrs P. F. Collier and Sons, world-famous publishers, presented a two-volume, beautifully bound copy of the Funk & Wagnall Encyclopedic Dictionary, and the Biltmore Theatre presented passes to the intermediary and finalists in the contest.

Every Public and Secondary School in Toronto and district was sent details of the contest, which created a great deal of interest on the part of the youngsters. Details were also sent to Y.M.C.A.'s and fraternities in Toronto and district.

Special attention was paid to the newspaper advertising and front-of-house displays. For the latter, large cut-outs were mounted on the Biltmore marquee and caught the eye of all who passed the theatre.

Special Archery equipment displays were arranged with Wilson's Store, giving credit to the picture.

The Sales Manager of Robin Hood Flour in Ontario was also advised of the picture and strongly urged to take full advantage of the publicity being given same.

Radio Station CHUM also co-operated with the theatre in giving considerable support to the picture on free time.

With this detailed exploitation campaign, "Robin Hood" played two weeks to outstanding business.

EXHIBITOR PASSES

Hymie Rotenberg, an exhibitor in Toronto for more than 30 years, suffered a heart attack and passed away on Wednesday, May 19th, at his home in Toronto. He had been ailing for some time. The former owner of the Pickford Theatre, he also retained interests in the Empire and Chateau Theatres in Toronto. Many friends in the film industry were in attendance at the funeral.

NFB To Produce Two Color Films

At least two color productions are on the books for the National Film Board's English-language theatrical series, Canada Carries On, and its French-language counterpart, En Avant Canada. To be shot in color will be a film on the planning of the new Ottawa by Jacques Greber, eminent French town-planner, and his cohorts, under a working title, "Capital Plan". A blow-up from 16 mm. to 35 mm. in color will be "Eskimo", filmed in the Canadian sub-arctic.

Upcoming CCO productions in black-and-white include the next release, "Art For Everybody", on the ever-expanding functions of art galleries of today; "Maps We Live By" (working title), produced originally by NFB for the United Nations, on the importance of maps in all phases of life; "Bell Singers", a musical on the Leslie Bell Singers of Toronto; "Your MP" (working title), following a typical member of Parliament through a typical day in Ottawa; "A Chance To Live", concerning the problems in establishing orphans in society; "Global Weather"; "Open House", on Canada's vast tourist industry, and a production, as yet untitled, about the culture and skills brought to the Dominion by immigrants. These will all be one-reelers, contrary to reports, following the release of "The Home Town Paper", a two-reel CCO on Canadian weekly newspapers, that future CCO's would be two reels in length. "Paper" was an exception.

Columbia Pictures, distributors of the CCO series, report encouraging increases in bookings of the series, which now plays in 435 theatres from coast to coast. This is an increase of 135 theatres over the 1947 total, and nearly 200 over the year before that. The En Avant Canada series, and the new NFB French-language series, Vigie, both distributed by Astral Films, are playing in 30 Quebec theatres today. Columbia also reports bookings on the NFB feature, "RCMP-File 1365", have reached 421 to date, with new bookings arriving weekly.

AUDIO HOST TO ADMEN

Audio Pictures and Film Laboratories of Canada were hosts to 150 members of the Young Men's Advertising and Sales Club of Toronto at a special "Motion Picture Night" on Wednesday, May 19th. The young admen were taken on a complete tour of the premises, and were shown several movies, including the two Barbara Ann Scott shorts, "Champions in the Making" and "Dancing Blades", which were produced by Audio for the National Film Board.

« Capital Story »

By WILL McLAUGHLIN

"THE Iron Curtain" got away to a good start at the Capitol, despite the threats of boycotting and picketing received by the theatre management from various organizations with pro-Russian leanings. Manager Ray Tubman also received 15 'phone calls from anonymous persons before the picture opened in protest against the showings. A false fire alarm and a false call for ambulance services were also used by unknown persons in an effort to disrupt the local engagement of 20th Century - Fox's Russian espionage drama. But the "show went on" as per schedule and continued to good business throughout the week without further incidents.

* * *

According to local newspaper accounts, the plays being presented at the small-seated LaSalle Academy Theatre, by Hugh Parker's professional group known as the Canadian Stage Society, are being sparsely attended. Current show is "Quiet Wedding", a comedy in three acts, with Shaw's "Pygmalion" advertised as the next attraction.

Barbara Ann Scott, Ottawa's queen of the silvery blades, spent the week end in Washington, D.C., where she was received by President Truman. Barbara Ann is leaving Ottawa shortly with her mother for an unannounced destination in the Laurentian Mountains, where she will "rest up" during the coming summer months. She is expected to leave for Hollywood next fall to take up one of the many attractive movie contracts received since her return from the Olympic ice skating competitions.

Empire Day was celebrated in traditional style by local theatre managements, with both Uptown and neighborhood houses reporting large attendances over the long holiday week-end. Most of the first-runs and some of the neighborhood houses staged special midnight shows on the night immediately preceding the Monday holiday.

FOR SALE

Complete Western Electric Sound System, Universal bases 2S-41, and two speakers, also two Motiograph heads and upper magazines, model F, and two standard Simplex heads and upper magazines. For further information write MANITOBA THEATRES LTD., Odeon Theatre Bldg., Winnipeg, Man.

Gord Beavis, manager of the Centre Theatre, which is operated in partnership with Donn B. Stapleton and the Centre Amusement Company, is in search of a picture worthy of an extended run. Gord hasn't had a "hold-over" in a month of Sundays in the centrally-located theatre. The answer to his prayer may be the J. Arthur Rank-R-K-O picture, "So Well Remembered", which opened the other day to big business, with the "Royal Wedding Presents", as the added attraction on an all-English bill.

* * *

Isser Singerman, manager of the Rideau (20th Century Theatre), is over-hauling his fishing tackle in preparation for his annual trip for trout in the lake district of the Gatineau Hills. The Rideau, incidentally, is presenting double bills day and date with the Victoria, another 20th Century operated theatre located in the West End.

* * *

Morris Berlin and his father Hyman, owners and operators of the Nelson and Somerset Theatres, placed the former at the disposal of the Ottawa Zionist Council for a mass rally of local Jews in celebration of the birth of a Jewish State. Over 1,000 people, including many prominent Ottawa and district showmen, attended the rousing meeting, which was held Sunday afternoon, May 16th.

IT'S A PROBLEM!

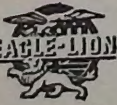
J. ARTHUR RANK
Presents

**Googie Withers
Jack Warner
John McCallum**

in

**IT ALWAYS
RAINS
ON SUNDAY**

A Michael Balcon Production
from
EALING STUDIOS

An  Release



© EAGLE-LION FILMS
of Canada, Limited

"Playing another of them Eagle-Lion pictures eh! — that means we even have to clean up the front rows."

Vancouver News

By JACK DROY

ROSS BEESLEY, ASN Western representative, will soon be known as the Flying Newsreelman if events of the past two weeks are any criterion. Beesley recently grabbed a TCA plane to Calgary when he heard of the big floods in the Drumheller Valley. A few days later he was at Bridge River in B.C., where he used a Grumann Goose airplane to make air shots at the site of Western Canada's biggest and newest power plant. He came back to Vancouver by air, over some of the most outstanding mountain scenery in Canada, including Mount Garibaldi Park en route, which is a veritable Skiers' Paradise. After a quick trip to Lethbridge by train for a story on Viscount Alexander, who opened the Sunshine Highway at the International Boundary between Montana and Alberta, Ross was back in Calgary working with the RCAF Photo Section doing Aerial Survey pictures over the Rockies.

Towns along the course of the Fraser River are showing real concern at the high water mark of the river. Ashcroft, B.C. is already flooded. A few years ago the river went on a rampage causing tremendous damage and closing many theatres in the Fraser Valley district.

Cupid has been busy in show business here. Jean Anderson of the Odeon-Hastings will take the trip to the altar in August. Two M-G-M lassies, Kay Flockhart and Marge Spencer, will be married in June. Lorne Newton, former assistant manager of the Orpheum, will marry Barbara Shearer, who resigned from the Capitol recently, and Marjorie Hayter, eldest daughter of Earl Hayter, Odeon's B.C. supervisor, will marry Dennis Lane, June 9th. Rose Innacone of W-B is sporting an engagement ring and will marry Douglas Isman, booker at International Film Distributors this summer.

The Odeon-Hastings is presenting a "Talent Discovery Show" on their stage every Wednesday evening. Roy Gordon is in charge of the talent, which Al Mitchell says is a good box office builder for his theatre.

With the removal of the 20 per cent Federal Wartime tax on amusements, there will be no change of moving picture admissions in B.C. The provincial government grabbed it.

Nitery business in Vancouver has risen about 25% in the past two months. Ace film and radio attractions brought in recently apparently are paying off. The Ink Spots and Lena Horne both played two weeks to capacity business at increased prices.

The Odeon-Olympia Theatre held a "deliver food for Britain" matinee, and 1,500 kiddies paid one can of food each, as the price of admission to the special after-school show. The matinee netted a truckload of food which will be sent to Britain. The movies were donated by the Odeon circuit with manager Al Goodwin of the Olympia Theatre handling arrangements. The theatre received plenty of good publicity for their community effort.

Parnell and Sons are rebuilding the fire-gutted, 450-seat Palace Theatre in Coleman, Alberta. Spot is a coal-mining town in the Crow's Nest Pass district.

Trans-Canada Showing

Use This Information As Your Guide On Release Dates

TORONTO

BILTMORE

"The Flame" (Rep.), with John Carroll and Vera Ralston. Also "Heart Of Virginia" (Rep.), with Robert Lowery and Janet Martin.

EGLINTON-TIVOLI

2nd week. "I Remember Mama" (R-K-O), with Irene Dunne and Barbara Bel Geddes.

FAIRLAWN-DANFORTH

"Fame Is The Spur" (E-L), with Michael Redgrave and Rosamund John.

IMPERIAL

2nd week. "The Iron Curtain" (Fox), with Gene Tierney and Dana Andrews.

INTERNATIONAL CINEMA

3rd week. "Meet Me At Dawn" (Int'l), with William Eythe and Stanley Holloway.

LOEW'S

"State Of The Union" (M-G-M), with Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn and Van Johnson.

NORTOWN-VICTORIA

"Call Northside 777" (Fox), with James Stewart, Helen Walker and Lee J. Cobb.

SHEA'S

"Scudda-Hoo! Scudda-Hay!" (Fox), Technicolor, with June Haver and Lon McCallister.

UPTOWN

2nd week. "All My Sons" (U-I), with Burt Lancaster and Edward G. Robinson.

MONTREAL

AVENUE

2nd week. "Nicholas Nickleby" (E-L), with Cedric Hardwicke.

CAPITOL

"I Walk Alone" (Para.), with Burt Lancaster and Elizabeth Scott.

HIS MAJESTY'S

"Song Of My Heart" (Mono.), with Frank Sundstrom and Audrey Long.

IMPERIAL

"I Became A Criminal" (W-B), with Sally Gray and Trevor Howard. Also "Rose Of Santa Rosa" (Col.), with Patricia White and Eduardo Noreiga.

KENT

"The Loves Of Joanna Godden" (E-L), with Geogie Withers and Jean Kent.

LOEW'S

"The Pirate" (M-G-M), Technicolor, with Judy Garland and Gene Kelly.

PALACE

2nd week. "Cass Timberlane" (M-G-M), with Spencer Tracy, Lana Turner and Zachary Scott.

PRINCESS

"The Fugitive" (R-K-O), with Henry Fonda and Dolores Del Rio. Also "Blondie's Anniversary" (Col.), with Penny Singleton and Arthur Lake.

SNOWDON

"Hungry Hill" (E-L), with Margaret Lockwood and Dennis Price.

A protest move, by Vancouver leftists, to attempt to ban the opening here of the film "The Iron Curtain", or at least to censor it, got under way this week. Glyn Thomas, B.C. secretary of the Federation of Labor Youth, and other members of the "Beaver Brigade", a group which toured Europe last summer, visited Orpheum Theatre manager Ivan Ackery, asking that "The Iron Curtain" showing be cancelled. Thomas also visited Jack Hughes, B.C. film censor head, seeking a ban, "or the cutting of the more vicious parts of the picture". No attention was paid to the protests, and the film opened to capacity business at the Orpheum.

SAINT JOHN

CAPITOL

"The Iron Curtain" (Fox), with Dana Andrews and Gene Tierney.

MAYFAIR

"Kiss Of Death" (Fox), with Victor Mature and Coleen Gray. Also "The Magnificent Rogue", with Lynne Roberts and Warren Douglas.

STRAND

"Wings Of The Morning" (Cardinal), Technicolor, with Annabella and Henry Fonda.

WINNIPEG

CAPITOL

2nd week. "My Wild Irish Rose" (W-B), Technicolor, with Dennis Morgan and Andrea King.

GARRICK

"A Woman's Vengeance" (U-I), with Charles Boyer and Ann Blyth.

METROPOLITAN

"The Iron Curtain" (Fox), with Dana Andrews and Gene Tierney.

ODEON

"Naked City" (U-I), with Barry Fitzgerald.

CALGARY

CAPITOL

"State Of The Union" (M-G-M), with Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn and Van Johnson.

GRAND

"Sleep, My Love" (U-A), with Claudette Colbert, Robert Cummings and Don Ameche.

PALACE

"Out Of The Past" (R-K-O), with Robert Mitchum and Jane Greer.

VANCOUVER

CAPITOL

"The Big Clock" (Para.), with Ray Milland and Charles Laughton.

ORPHEUM

"High Wall" (M-G-M), with Robert Taylor and Audrey Totter.

PARADISE

"Love From A Stranger" (Int'l), with John Hodiak, Sylvia Sydney and Ann Richards. Also "Heading For Heaven" (Int'l), with Stuart Erwin and Glenda Farrell.

PARK-PLAZA

"Ruthless" (Int'l), with Zachary Scott and Louis Hayward. Also "Murder Case" with Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy.

STRAND

2nd week. "Sitting Pretty" (Fox), with Maureen O'Hara, Robert Young and Clifton Webb.

VOGUE

2nd week. "Naked City" (U-I), with Barry Fitzgerald.

MR. EXHIBITOR

HERE'S ONE OF THOSE EXPLOITATION 'NATURALS' THAT WILL BACK UP ALL YOUR SELLING AND BRING IN EXTRA DOLLARS—READ THESE REVIEWS AND YOU'LL AGREE—IT'S A BOX OFFICE TONIC!

"There isn't a dull moment" —BOXOFFICE

"Suspense, excitement and romance"
—SHOWMAN'S TRADE REVIEW

"Will hold its own with most class A films"
—JIMMIE FIDLER

"Well staged minutes of suspense and gun
play" —HOLLYWOOD REVIEW

"Tight plot, coupled with good performances"
—INDEPENDENT FILM JOURNAL

"Carries interest all the way and builds to a
suspenseful slam-bang climax"
—BOX OFFICE DIGEST

"Fast moving, well paced. Careful direction,
scripting and production, with good dialogue"
—THE EXHIBITOR

"A treat for followers of melodramatic fiction
and a smart 66 minutes of pastime for anybody"
—MOTION PICTURE HERALD

"A solid piece of merchandise. Don Castle, the
first outright challenge to Clark Gable in all
these years"
—MOTION PICTURE DAILY

"Holds interest to the end . . . excellent direction
. . . fitting production . . . acting above par . . .
photography praiseworthy" —FILM DAILY

THAT'S

'PERILOUS WATERS'

Starring DON CASTLE, AUDREY LONG,
PEGGY KNUDSEN

With
SAMUEL HINDS, GLORIA HOLDEN, JOHN MILJAN
A MONOGRAM PICTURE
A JACK WRATHER PRODUCTION

From **MONOGRAM** *Now!*